

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman **Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23)** has issued a letter to the Mayor and City Council regarding the absolute need for San Antonio to protect Camp Bullis. The text of Congressman Rodriguez's letter is as follows: *"I am writing to encourage you to oppose any development that will infringe upon military missions at Camp Bullis. Camp Bullis is vital to the San Antonio economy. When combined with the \$1.2 billion annual payroll and 8,594 civilian jobs at Fort Sam Houston, the economic and community impact of the base is significant.*

*"When the news of this development came to light, my office contacted Fort Sam Houston and learned the military's concerns with development around Camp Bullis. With the expansion of Fort Sam Houston's training mission as a result of the recent Base Realignment and Closure commission decisions, it is paramount that we ensure the viability of Camp Bullis in fulfilling the Army's obligations to national security. The impact on the traffic flow and additional lighting from businesses and residences within the development planned by Thomas Enterprises could hinder the ability of Fort Sam to achieve its mission."*

*"I recommend that the city revisit the 1995 study that analyzed the potential impact of development around Camp Bullis and use that as a guide for future development discussions.*

*"In addition, given the environmentally sensitive area near Camp Bullis, the city should review the effects of added impervious cover that might result from the development. As the sole source of water for most of the residents of San Antonio, the Edwards Aquifer's recharge zone is critical to the vitality and future of the city."*

*"The City of San Antonio has proven one of the strongest advocates for our military men and women. As author of the Brooks CityBase legislation, I sought and received the support of the city to create what is now seen as a model for economic development. City leaders have fought hard along with the entire congressional delegation to ensure that our military missions remain intact during the BRAC process. We should not roll back the process we have made.*

*"I ask that you ensure that the interests of our nation are considered in development decisions near Camp Bullis. I am proud to have Camp Bullis in my district and hope that your resolution will satisfy the needs of Fort Sam Houston."*

Congressman Rodriguez is a Member of the U.S. House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

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